Reply to Office Action of October 28, 2009

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph beginning in line 15 of page 7 with the following amended paragraph.

Once past the preliminary rinsing zone 3, the wash ware 10 runs into the washing zone 4. The washing zone 4 likewise comprises a washing system, designated 16. Once the wash ware 10 has left the preliminary rinsing zone 3, it passes into the washing zone 4. The washing zone also comprises a washing system 16, which is arranged above and beneath the top side of the circulating conveying belt 21. The washing zone 4 is likewise assigned a pump which can be regulated in a variable manner in respect of pumping capacity and via which the spray tubes of the washing system 16 are supplied with cleaning fluid in accordance with the degree of soiling of the washing system 16 in accordance with the degree of soiling of the wash ware 10, this cleaning fluid being subjected to a relatively high or low pressure - in dependence on the degree of soiling. The washing zone 4 is separated by a further separating curtain 13 from the pump-action rinsing zone 5, which has a washing system in the form of two mutually opposite spray tubes, one arranged above, and one arranged beneath, the top side of the conveying belt 21. The pump-action rinsing zone 5 is followed by a clean-water rinsing zone 6. Within the clean-water rinsing zone 6, the wash ware 10 is rinsed off with clean water in order for any remaining soiling and/or the previously applied cleaning agent to be removed from the wash ware 10 before it enters into a drying zone 7. Located downstream of the clean-water rinsing zone 6 is a further separating curtain 13, which separates the clean-water rinsing zone 6 from the drying zone 7.

Please replace the paragraph beginning in line 12 of page 12 with the following amended paragraph.

The illustration according to figure 1 shows a conveyor dishwasher which includes a circulating conveying belt 21. Instead of the circulating conveying belt, it is also possible for the wash ware 10 to run through the dishwasher in the transporting

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direction 9 by way of conveying racks, which are conveyed through the dishwasher by means of a chain or a ratchet rail. The dishwasher which is illustrated in figure 1 comprises a preliminary rinsing zone 3 and the pump-action rinsing zone 5, which is designated 5 but is not absolutely necessary, and the clean-water rinsing zone 6. The preliminary rinsing zone 3 and the pump-action rinsing zone 5 may just be provided on an optional basis. The essential factor is to produce, within the dishwasher, an air flow counter to the transporting direction 9 of the wash ware 10 through the dishwasher. For this purpose, the suction-extraction location 23 is advantageously always located upstream of the drying zone 7 - as seen in the transporting direction 9 of the wash ware 10 - in order to make it possible for the exhaust-air stream to give off heat to those zones of the dishwasher which are located upstream of the drying zone 7. Δ designates the difference between the first quantity of air 29 air 28 and the second quantity of air 33.

3 ADM/FRH/

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